

GP/2161

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service, with sufficient postage, as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

July 11, 2001

Date of Deposit

Darin E. Bartholomew, Reg. No. 36,444

Name of applicant, assignee or  
Registered Representative

*[Signature]*

Signature

July 11, 2001

Date of Signature



RECEIVED

JUL 19 2001

Technology Center 2100

Our Case No. 10022/18

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Inventor(s):

Como et. al.

Serial No.: 09/710,154

Filing Date: November 9, 2000

Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR  
BUSINESS PLANNING VIA A  
COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

Examiner: Not Yet Determined

Group Art Unit No.: 2161

**LETTER ON CO-PENDING APPLICATIONS**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The Applicants request the Examiner's consideration of the co-pending U.S. patent application set forth in this letter in accordance with 37 CFR § 1.56 and MPEP § 2001.06(b).

The following co-pending U.S. application may be material to the examination of the above application.


| Serial No. | Art Unit | Filing Date      |
|------------|----------|------------------|
| 09/710,150 | 2161     | November 9, 2000 |

Applicants and any others with a duty of disclosure under 37 CFR § 1.56 provide the above citation of the co-pending application without admitting or denying the materiality of any particular reference with respect to the examination of the above application.

This Letter shall not operate as a waiver of the preservation in confidence of any or all of the cited co-pending patent applications pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 122 or applicable provisions of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Thus, no information will be given concerning filing, pendency or subject matter of any application for patent, and no access will be given, or copies furnished of any application based on this Letter.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: July 11, 2001

  
Darin E. Bartholomew  
Registration No. 36,444  
Attorney for Applicant

BRINKS, HOFER, GILSON & LIONE  
P.O. BOX 10395  
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60610